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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please find below a listing of all of the pending claims. The status of the claims is set forth in parentheses.

1. (Currently amended) A user interface, comprising:

at least two physical objects, each associated with a respective data set consisting of at least one datum defining preferences of a user;

a controller connected to a data store and programmed to perform an operation on said respective data sets;

said controller having a receiver;

at least one transmitter operatively associated with said at least two physical objects and responsive to a mechanical state of said at least two physical objects such that a control signal is transmitted to said receiver corresponding to an operation to be performed on at least one of said data sets and responsive to at least the other of said data sets, said controller being programmed to perform said operation.

2. (Currently amended) A user interface as in claim 1, wherein said at least two physical objects are tokens connected by a chain, a wire, string, or filament.

3. (Currently amended) A user interface as in claim 2, wherein said at least two physical objects are beads.

4. (Currently amended) A user interface as in claim 1, further comprising a console operatively associated with said at least two physical objects, said console housing said transmitter.

5. (Original) A user interface as in claim 4, wherein said console has a display and at least one control switch, said control signal being responsive to data entered through said at least one control switch and an image of said display being responsive to said control switch.

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6. (Previously presented) A user interface, comprising:

a mechanically connected combination of tokens, each associated with a data set;

a console interoperable with said tokens;

said console having a controller, a transmitter, and an interface;

said controller being programmed such that a first mechanical configuration of one of said tokens, effective to interface said one of said tokens with said console, results in the transmission of a command indicating a data exchange operation involving said data set associated with another one of said tokens.

7. (Original) A user interface as in claim 6, wherein said console has at least one control switch to which said command is responsive.

8. (Original) A user interface as in claim 6, wherein said tokens are beads connected by one or more flexible connectors.

9. (Original) A user interface as in claim 6, wherein said interface includes a contact elements that is configured to permit said controller to detect a presence of a one of said tokens that is in contact with said interface.

10. (Original) A user interface as in claim 6, wherein each of said tokens contains a unique encoded signature transmittable to said controller via said interface such that said controller may distinguish among said tokens.

11. (Previously Presented) A user interface as in claim 6, wherein each of said tokens has a device containing a code uniquely identifying said token such that said controller can distinguish between said tokens.

12. (Withdrawn) A system for controlling a delivery of data to a terminal, comprising:

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tokens, each corresponding to a set of criteria pertaining selectively to a subset of said data;

each of said tokens encoding an identifier;

a transmitter operatively associated with said tokens;

a data delivery terminal with a receiver for delivering said data to said terminal for display thereon;

said transmitter being responsive to said identifier of at least a selected one of said tokens such that a command to filter said data is generated by said transmitter.

13. (Withdrawn) A system as in claim 12, wherein said criteria are stored on a server connected to said data delivery terminal, said identifier being used by said terminal to derive a unique server address of said server.

14. (Withdrawn) A method of accessing data, comprising:

encoding tokens with unique identifiers;

storing an address on a communication station, said address pointing to a respective data set for each of said tokens;

transmittting commands to said communication station to transfer from a first data set to a second data set responsively to a manipulation of said tokens corresponding to said first data set and said second data set.

15. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 14, wherein said manipulation includes forming a communication connection between a console and said tokens corresponding to said first and second data sets.

16. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 14, wherein said step of transmitting includes transmitting said unique identifiers of said tokens corresponding to said first and second data sets.

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17. (Withdrawn) A method of accessing data, comprising:

encoding tokens with unique identifiers;

storing an address on a communication station, said address pointing to a respective data set for each of said tokens;

manipulating said tokens;

transmitting commands to said communication station to filter data delivered to said terminal responsively to criteria defined by said first data set and said second data set;

said step of transmitting being responsive to a result of said step of manipulating.

18. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 17, wherein said step of manipulating includes bringing said tokens corresponding to said first and second data sets into proximity with a console and transferring said unique identifiers to said console.

19. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 18, wherein said step of transmitting includes transmitting said unique codes of said first and second data sets.

20. (Currently amended) A user interface as in claim 1, wherein said at least two physical objects are tokens connected together by one of a chain, a wire, string, and a filament.

21. (Currently amended) A user interface as in claim 1, wherein one of said two physical objects is a bead that has a visual characteristic that visually distinguishes said one of said two physical objects from another one of said two physical objects.

22. (Previously Presented) A user interface as in claim 21, wherein said visual characteristic is one of color, pattern, picture, and shape.

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23. (Currently amended) A user interface as in claim 1, wherein one of said two physical objects is a soft bead comprising a pressure sensitive switch.

24. (Currently amended) A user interface as in claim 23, wherein said one of said two physical objects comprises a scrollable display, wherein said pressure sensitive switch is configured to scroll said scrollable display if pressure is applied to said pressure sensitive switch.

25. (Currently Amended) A system for performing an operation on an object, the system comprising:

a plurality of ~~beads~~ tokens, each associated with a respective data set consisting of at least one datum defining preferences of a user;

a communication device configured to perform an operation on said respective data sets, wherein said communication device is operatively associated with said plurality of ~~beads~~ tokens and responsive to a mechanical state of said plurality of ~~beads~~ tokens such that a control signal is transmitted to said communication device corresponding to an operation to be performed on at least one of said data sets and responsive to at least the other of said data sets, said communication device being programmed to perform said operation.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein said plurality of ~~beads~~ tokens are connected together by one of a chain, a wire, string, and a filament.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, wherein one of said plurality of beads has a visual characteristic that visually distinguishes said one of said plurality of beads from another one of said plurality of beads and wherein said visual characteristic is one of color, pattern, picture, and shape.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein at least one of said plurality of ~~beads~~ tokens is a soft ~~beads~~ bead comprising:

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a pressure sensitive switch; and

a scrollable display, wherein said pressure sensitive switch is configured to scroll said scrollable display if pressure is applied to said pressure sensitive switch.

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